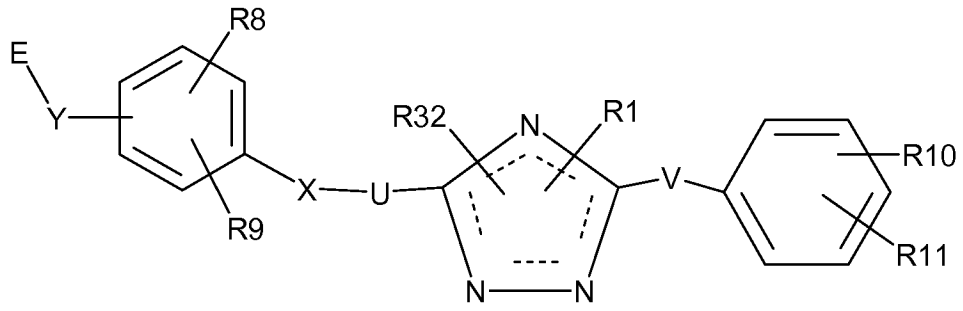
Amendments to the Claims

What is claimed is:

1. (Canceled)

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently Amended) A compound wherein the compound is of the Formula Ic:



Ic

and stereoisomers, or pharmaceutically acceptable salts~~, solvates and hydrates~~ thereof, wherein:

(a) R1 is hydrogen;

(b) R26, R27, R28 and R31 are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, hydroxy, cyano, nitro, halo, oxo, C_1-C_6 alkyl, C_1-C_6 alkyl-COOR12, C_1-C_6 alkoxy, C_1-C_6 haloalkyl, C_1-C_6 haloalkyloxy, C_3-C_7 cycloalkyl, aryloxy, aryl-C_{0-4}-alkyl, C(O)R13, COOR14, OC(O)R15, $OS(O)_2R16$, $N(R17)_2$, NR18C(O)R19, $NR20SO_2R21$, SR22, S(O)R23, $S(O)_2R24$, and $S(O)_2N(R25)_2$; R12, R13, R14, R15, R16, R17, R18, R19, R20, R21, R22, R23, R24 and R25 are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl and aryl;

(c) V is selected from the group consisting of C_0-C_8 alkyl;

(d) X is selected from the group consisting of a single bond;

(e) U is an aliphatic linker wherein one carbon atom of the aliphatic linker is substituted with from one to two substituents each independently selected from R30;

(f) Y is selected from the group consisting of CH_2, O, and S;

(g) E is C(R3)(R4)A and wherein

(i) A is selected from the group consisting of carboxyl, C_1-C_6 alkylnitrile, carboxamide, sulfonamide and acylsulfonamide; wherein sulfonamide, acylsulfonamide and tetrazole are each optionally substituted with from one to two groups independently selected from R^7;

(ii) each R^7 is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1-C_6 haloalkyl, aryl C_0-C_4 alkyl and C_1-C_6 alkyl;

(iii) R3 is C_1-C_2 alkyl; and

(iv) R4 is methyl optionally substituted with from one to three substituents each independently selected from R26;

(h) R8 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1-C_4 alkyl, C_1-C_4 alkylenyl, and halo;

(i) R9 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1-C_4 alkyl, C_1-C_4 alkylenyl, halo, aryl-C_0-C_4 alkyl, C_1-C_6 allyl, and OR29, and wherein aryl-C_0-C_4 alkyl, heteroaryl are each optionally substituted with from one to three independently selected from R27; R29 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and C_1-C_4 alkyl;

(j) R10, R11 are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, hydroxy, cyano, nitro, halo, oxo, C_1-C_6 alkyl, C_1-C_6 alkylenyl, C_1-C_6 alkyl-COOR12'', C_0-C_6 alkoxy, C_1-C_6 haloalkyl, C_1-C_6 haloalkyloxy, C_3-C_7 cycloalkyl, aryl-C_{0-4}-alkyl, aryl- C_{1-4}-heteroalkyl, C3-C6 cycloalkylaryl-C_{0-2}-alkyl, aryloxy, C(O)R13', COOR14', OC(O)R15', $OS(O)_2R16'$, $N(R17')_2$, NR18'C(O)R19', $NR20'SO_2R21'$, SR22', S(O)R23', $S(O)_2R24'$, and $S(O)_2N(R25')_2$; and wherein aryl-C_{0-4}-alkyl, aryl- C_{1-4}-heteroalkyl, heteroaryl-C_{0-4}-alkyl, and C3-C6 cycloalkylaryl-C_{0-2}-alkyl are each optionally substituted with from one to three independently selected from R28; and wherein R10 and R11 optionally combine to form a 5 to 6 membered fused bicyclic ring with the phenyl to which they are bound;

(k) R12', R12'', R13', R14', R15', R16', R17', R18', R19', R20', R21', R22', R23', R24', and R25' are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl and aryl;

(l) R30 is selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_6 alkyl, aryl-C_{0-4}-alkyl, aryl- C_{1-4}-heteroalkyl, and C3-C6 cycloalkylaryl-C_{0-2}-alkyl, and wherein C_1-C_6 alkyl, aryl-C_{0-4}-alkyl, aryl- C_{1-4}-heteroalkyl, heteroaryl-C_{0-4}-alkyl, and C3-C6 cycloalkylaryl-C_{0-2}-alkyl are each optionally substituted with from one to three substituents each independently selected from R31;

(m) R32 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halo, C_1-C_6 alkyl, C_1-C_6 haloalkyl, and C_1-C_6 alkyloxo; and

(n) ---- is optionally a bond to form a double bond at the indicated position.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Canceled)

6. (Canceled)

7. (Canceled)

8. (Canceled)

9. (Withdrawn) A compound as claimed by Claim 3 wherein X is O.

10. (Withdrawn) A compound as claimed by Claim 3 wherein X is S.

11. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed by Claim 3wherein Y is O.

12. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed by Claim 3 wherein Y is CH_2.

13. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed by Claim 3 wherein Y is S.

14. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed by Claim 3 wherein two of "----" in the five membered ring are each a bond to form double bonds at the designated locations.

15. (Canceled)

16. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed by Claim 14 wherein A is COOH.

17. (Canceled)

18. (Canceled)

19. (Canceled)

20. (Canceled)

21. (Canceled)

22. (Canceled)

23. (Canceled)

24. (Canceled)

25. (Canceled)

26. (Canceled)

27. (Canceled)

28. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed by Claim 14 wherein V is selected from the group consisting of C_0-C_1 alkyl.

29. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed by Claim 14 wherein U is C_1-C_3 alkyl.

30. (Canceled)

31. (Canceled)

32. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed by Claim 3 wherein one carbon of the aliphatic linker is replaced with an O.

33. (Withdrawn) A compound as claimed by Claim 14 wherein U is an aliphatic linker having one carbon replaced by N.

34. (Withdrawn) A compound as claimed by Claim 14 wherein U is an aliphatic linker having one carbon replaced by S.

35. (Canceled)

36. (Canceled)

37. (Canceled)

38. (Canceled)

39. (Canceled)

40. (Canceled)

41. (Canceled)

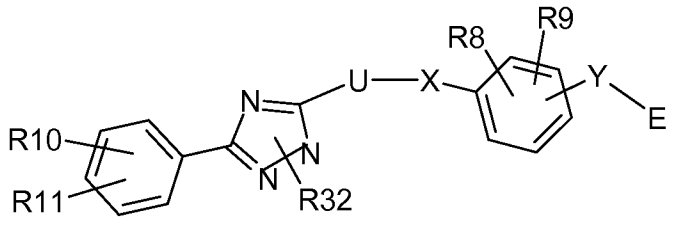
42. (Canceled)

43. (Canceled)

44. (Canceled)

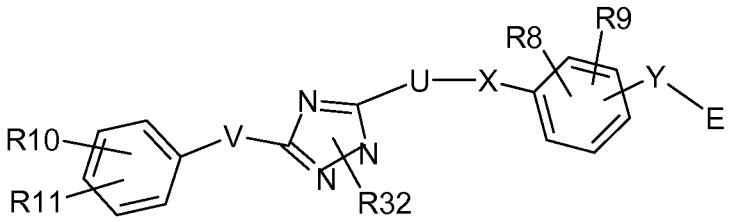
45. (Canceled)

46. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed by Claim 3 , represented by the following Structural Formula VI:



47. (Canceled)

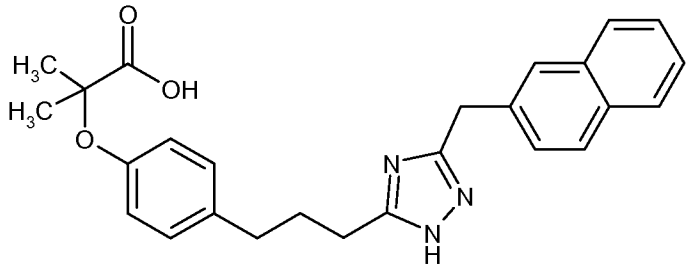
48. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed by Claim 3, represented by the following Structural Formula IX:



49. (Canceled)

50. (Canceled)

51. (Currently Amended) A compound as claimed by Claim 3 wherein the compound is a compound of the formula:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt~~, solvate, or hydrate~~ thereof.

52. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed by Claim 3 wherein X is a bond.

53. (Canceled)

54. (Canceled)

55. (Canceled)

56. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition, comprising as an active ingredient, at least one compound as claimed by Claim 3 together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

57. (Canceled)

58. (Canceled)

59. (Canceled)

60. (Canceled)

61. (Canceled)

62. (Canceled)

63. (Canceled)

64. (Canceled)

65. (Canceled)

66. (Canceled)

67. (Canceled)

68. (Canceled)

69. (Canceled)

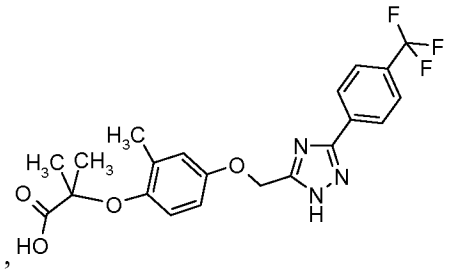
70. (Canceled)

71. (Canceled)

72. (Canceled)

73. (Canceled)

74. (Currently Amended) A compound as claimed by Claim 3 wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of:



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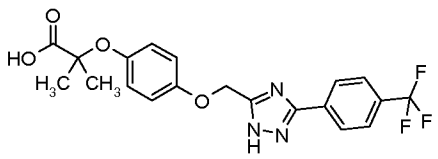
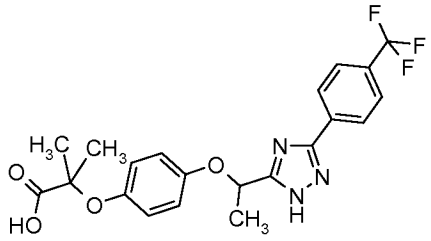


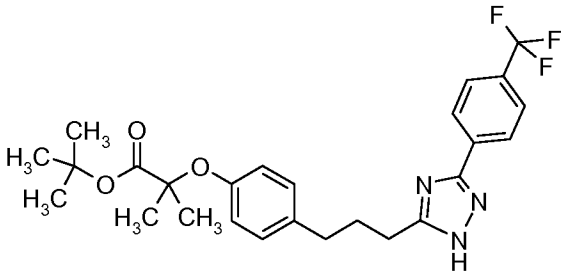
,

, and



or a pharmaceutically salt~~, solvate, or hydrate~~ thereof.

75. (Currently Amended) A compound as claimed by Claim 46 wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of: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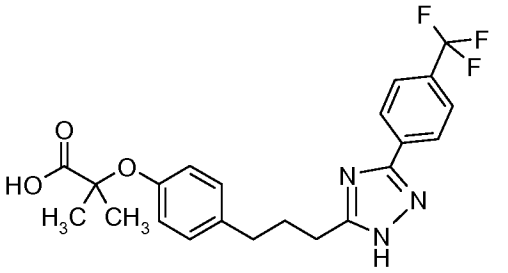
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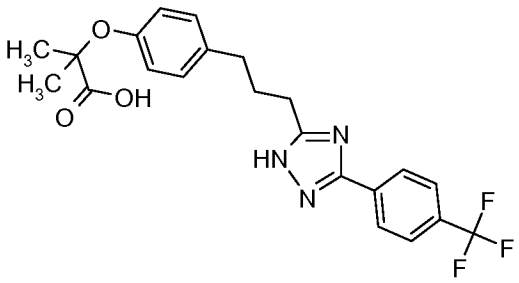
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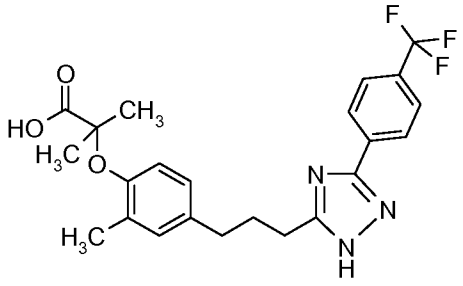
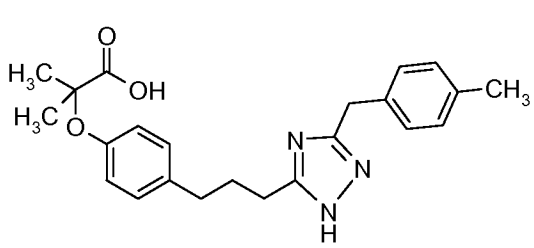
and  , or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt~~, solvate, or hydrate~~ thereof.

76. (Canceled)

77. (Currently Amended) A compound as claimed by Claim 48 wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of: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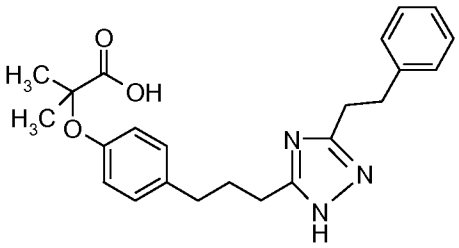
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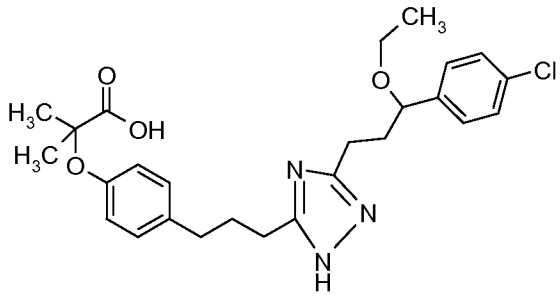
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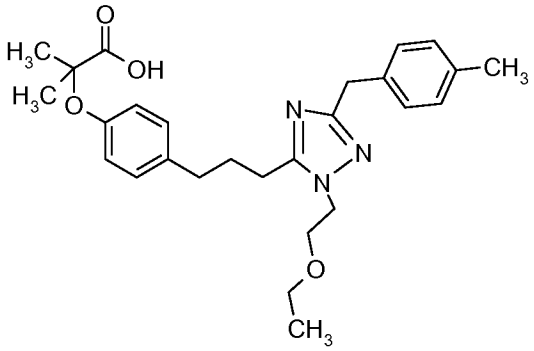
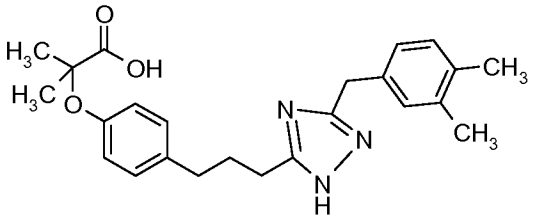

, and

;

or a pharmaceutically salt~~, solvate, or hydrate~~ thereof.

78. (Canceled)

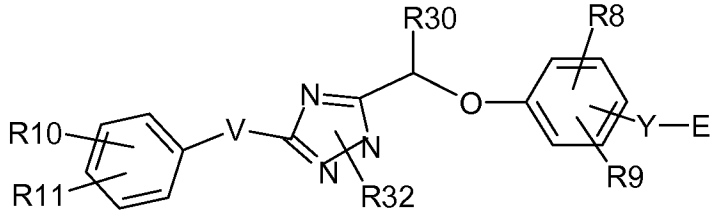
79. (Canceled)

80. (Canceled)

81. (Canceled)

82. (Canceled)

83. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed by Claim 3 of the structural formula: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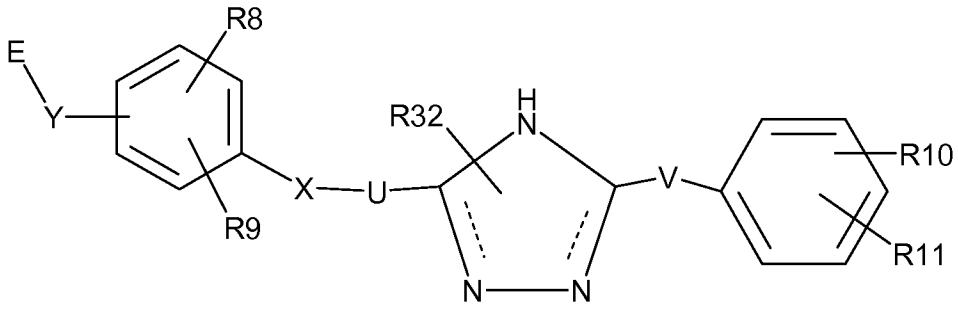
84. (Currently Amended) A compound as claimed by Claim 3, of the Formula Ia:



Ia

and stereoisomers, or pharmaceutically acceptable salts, ~~solvates and hydrates~~ thereof, wherein:

(a) R26, R27, R28 and R31 are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, hydroxy, cyano, nitro, halo, oxo, C_1-C_6 alkyl, C_1-C_6 alkyl-COOR12, C_1-C_6 alkoxy, C_1-C_6 haloalkyl, C_1-C_6 haloalkyloxy, C_3-C_7 cycloalkyl, aryloxy, aryl-C_{0-4}-alkyl, C(O)R13, COOR14, OC(O)R15, $OS(O)_2R16$, $N(R17)_2$, NR18C(O)R19, $NR20SO_2R21$, SR22, S(O)R23, $S(O)_2R24$, and $S(O)_2N(R25)_2$; R12, R13, R14, R15, R16, R17, R18, R19, R20, R21, R22, R23, R24 and R25 are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl and aryl;

(b) V is selected from the group consisting of C_0-C_8 alkyl;

(c) X is selected from the group consisting of a single bond;

(d) U is an aliphatic linker wherein one carbon atom of the aliphatic linker is optionally substituted with from one to two substituents each independently selected from R30;

(e) Y is selected from the group consisting of CH_2, O and S;

(f) E is C(R3)(R4)A or A and wherein

(i) A is selected from the group consisting of carboxyl, C_1-C_6 alkylnitrile, carboxamide, sulfonamide and acylsulfonamide; wherein sulfonamide, acylsulfonamide and tetrazole are each optionally substituted with from one to two groups independently selected from R^7;

(ii) each R^7 is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1-C_6 haloalkyl, aryl C_0-C_4 alkyl and C_1-C_6 alkyl;

(iii) R3 is C_1-C_2 alkyl; and

(iv) R4 is methyl optionally substituted with from one to three substituents each independently selected from R26;

(g) R8 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1-C_4 alkyl, C_1-C_4 alkylenyl, and halo;

(h) R9 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1-C_4 alkyl, C_1-C_4 alkylenyl, halo, aryl-C_0-C_4 alkyl, C_1-C_6 allyl, and OR29, and wherein aryl-C_0-C_4 alkyl, heteroaryl are each optionally substituted with from one to three independently selected from R27; R29 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and C_1-C_4 alkyl;

(i) R10, R11 are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, hydroxy, cyano, nitro, halo, oxo, C_1-C_6 alkyl, C_1-C_6 alkylenyl, C_1-C_6 alkyl-COOR12'', C_0-C_6 alkoxy, C_1-C_6 haloalkyl, C_1-C_6 haloalkyloxy, C_3-C_7 cycloalkyl, aryl-C_{0-4}-alkyl, aryl- C_{1-4}-heteroalkyl, C3-C6 cycloalkylaryl-C_{0-2}-alkyl, aryloxy, C(O)R13', COOR14', OC(O)R15', $OS(O)_2R16'$, $N(R17')_2$, NR18'C(O)R19', $NR20'SO_2R21'$, SR22', S(O)R23', $S(O)_2R24'$, and $S(O)_2N(R25')_2$; and wherein aryl-C_{0-4}-alkyl, aryl- C_{1-4}-heteroalkyl, heteroaryl-C_{0-4}-alkyl, and C3-C6 cycloalkylaryl-C_{0-2}-alkyl are each optionally substituted with from one to three independently selected from R28; and wherein R10 and R11 optionally combine to form a 5 to 6 membered fused bicyclic ring with the phenyl to which they are bound;

(j) R12', R12'', R13', R14', R15', R16', R17', R18', R19', R20', R21', R22', R23', R24', and R25' are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl and aryl;

(k) R30 is selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_6 alkyl, aryl-C_{0-4}-alkyl, aryl- C_{1-4}-heteroalkyl, and C3-C6 cycloalkylaryl-C_{0-2}-alkyl, and wherein C_1-C_6 alkyl, aryl-C_{0-4}-alkyl, aryl- C_{1-4}-heteroalkyl, heteroaryl-C_{0-4}-alkyl, and C3-C6 cycloalkylaryl-C_{0-2}-alkyl are each optionally substituted with from one to three substituents each independently selected from R31;

(l) R32 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halo, C_1-C_6 alkyl, C_1-C_6 haloalkyl, and C_1-C_6 alkyloxo; and

(m) ---- is optionally a bond to form a double bond at the indicated position.